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1. (Amended) A color image reading apparatus comprising:  
light-receiving means formed by a plurality of line sensors;  
imaging means for providing a light beam image of an object;  
color-separation means, inserted in a first optical path between said  
imaging means and light-receiving means, for color-separating said scanning light beam  
into a plurality of color light beams; and

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first optical means, inserted in a second optical path between the  
object and said imaging means, for temporarily imaging the object in a sub-scanning  
direction in said second optical path.

2. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:  
line spacing correction means for correcting deviations of imaging  
positions on a surface of said light-receiving means caused by different wavelengths of the  
color light beams color-separated by said color-separation means; and  
second optical means having a power in the sub-scanning direction.

3. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said  
color-separation means, said line spacing correction means, and said second optical means  
are inserted in the optical path between said imaging means and said light-receiving means  
and are placed in an order of said color-separation means, said line spacing correction  
means, and said second optical means from the side of said imaging means.

4. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said  
color-separation means, said line spacing correction means, and said second optical means  
are inserted in the optical path between said imaging means and said light-receiving means

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a. and are placed in an order of said second optical means, said color-separation means, and said line spacing correction means from the side of said imaging means.

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5. An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said line spacing correction means comprises a plane-parallel glass, said color-separation means comprises a transmission linear blazed diffraction grating, and said plane-parallel glass and said transmission linear blazed diffraction grating are integrated and are placed to have a tilt with respect to an optical axis of said imaging means.

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6. An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said line spacing correction means sets spacings between adjacent ones of the plurality of color light beams color-separated in the sub-scanning direction on the surface of said light-receiving means to be equal to each other by changing optical paths of the color light beams using different refractive indices depending on different wavelengths.

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7. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a slit is placed at or near a position where said first optical means temporarily images.

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8. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said first optical means comprises a cylindrical lens having a power in the sub-scanning direction.

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9. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said second optical means comprises a first cylindrical lens having a negative power in the sub-scanning direction, and a second cylindrical lens having a positive power in the sub-scanning direction.

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10. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said color-separation means color-separates said scanning light beam image into three color light beams in a direction perpendicular to a line-up direction of pixels of said line sensors.

11. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising first, second, and third mirrors inserted in the optical path between the object and said imaging means, and

wherein said first optical means comprises at least two cylindrical lenses, and a slit is placed at or near a position where the cylindrical lens placed on the object side temporarily images the object.

12. An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the cylindrical lens placed on the object side has a positive refractive power, and is placed near the object.

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13. An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the cylindrical lens placed on the object side has a positive refractive power, and is inserted between said first and second mirrors.

14. An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said slit and second mirror are integrated.

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15. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the cylindrical lens placed on the side of said imaging means has a positive refractive power, and is placed in the vicinity of said imaging means.